

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 1999

SENATE BILL 1215
RATIFIED BILL

AN ACT TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES TO THE GENERAL STATUTES PERTAINING TO MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES REGULATING ADULT CARE HOMES AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES PERTAINING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 131D-4.3(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Pursuant to G.S. ~~143B-153, the Social Services-143B-165, the North Carolina Medical Care~~ Commission shall adopt rules to ensure at a minimum, but shall not be limited to, the provision of the following by adult care homes:

~~(1) Client assessment and independent case management;~~

(2) A minimum of 75 hours of training for personal care aides performing heavy care tasks and a minimum of 40 hours of training for all personal care aides. The training for aides providing heavy care tasks shall be comparable to State-approved Certified Nurse Aide I training. For those aides meeting the 40-hour requirement, at least 20 hours shall be classroom training to include at a minimum:

- a. Basic nursing skills;
- b. Personal care skills;
- c. Cognitive, behavioral, and social care;
- d. Basic restorative services; and
- e. Residents' rights.

A minimum of 20 hours of training shall be provided for aides in family care homes that do not have heavy care residents. Persons who either pass a competency examination developed by the Department of Health and Human Services, have been employed as personal care aides for a period of time as established by the Department, or meet minimum requirements of a combination of training, testing, and experience as established by the Department shall be exempt from the training requirements of this subdivision;

(3) Monitoring and supervision of residents;

(4) Oversight and quality of care as stated in G.S. 131D-4.1; and

(5) Adult care homes shall comply with all of the following staffing requirements:

- a. First shift (morning): 0.4 hours of aide duty for each resident (licensed capacity or resident census), or 8.0 hours of aide duty per each 20 residents (licensed capacity or resident census) plus 3.0 hours for all other residents, whichever is greater;
- b. Second shift (afternoon): 0.4 hours of aide duty for each resident (licensed capacity or resident census), or 8.0 hours of aide duty per each 20 residents plus 3.0 hours for all other residents (licensed capacity or resident census), whichever is greater;
- c. Third shift (evening): 8.0 hours of aide duty per 30 or fewer residents (licensed capacity or resident census).

In addition to these requirements, the facility shall provide staff to meet the needs of the facility's heavy care residents equal to the amount of time reimbursed by Medicaid. As used in this subdivision, the term 'heavy care resident' means an individual residing in an adult care home who is defined 'heavy care' by Medicaid and for which the facility is receiving enhanced Medicaid payments for such needs."

Section 2. G.S. 131D-4.5(5) reads as rewritten:

"§ 131D-4.5. Rules adopted by Medical Care Commission.

The Medical Care Commission shall adopt rules as follows:

- (5) Implementing the due process and appeal rights for discharge and transfer of residents in adult care homes afforded by G.S. 131D-21. ~~The rules may provide for procedures comparable to those provided to nursing home residents pursuant to federal law, to Chapter 131E of the General Statutes, and to related rules.~~ shall offer at least the same protections to residents as State and federal rules and regulations governing the transfer or discharge of residents from nursing homes."

Section 3. G.S. 131D-21(17) reads as rewritten:

"§ 131D-21. Declaration of residents' rights.

Each facility shall treat its residents in accordance with the provisions of this Article. Every resident shall have the following rights:

- (17) To not be transferred or discharged from a facility except for medical reasons, the residents' own or other residents' welfare, nonpayment for the stay, or when the transfer is mandated under State or federal law. The resident shall be given at least 30 days' advance notice to ensure orderly transfer or discharge, except in the case of jeopardy to the health or safety of the resident or others in the home. The resident has the right to appeal a facility's attempt to transfer or discharge the resident pursuant to rules adopted by the ~~Secretary,~~ Medical Care Commission, and the resident shall be allowed to remain in the facility until resolution of the appeal unless otherwise provided by law. The ~~Secretary~~ Medical Care Commission shall adopt rules pertaining to the transfer and discharge of residents that offer at least the same protections to residents as State and federal rules and regulations governing the transfer or discharge of residents from nursing homes."

Section 4. G.S. 143B-153(2) reads as rewritten:

- "(2) The Social Services Commission shall have the power and duty to establish standards and adopt rules and regulations:
- a. For the programs of public assistance established by federal legislation and by Article 2 of Chapter 108A of the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina with the exception of the program of medical assistance established by G.S. 108A-25(b);
 - b. To achieve maximum cooperation with other agencies of the State and with agencies of other states and of the federal government in rendering services to strengthen and maintain family life and to help recipients of public assistance obtain self-support and self-care;
 - c. For the placement and supervision of dependent juveniles and of delinquent juveniles who are placed in the custody of the Office of Juvenile Justice, and payment of necessary costs of foster home care for needy and homeless children as provided by G.S. 108A-48; ~~and~~
 - d. For the payment of State funds to private child-placing agencies as defined in G.S. 131D-10.2(4) and residential child care

facilities as defined in G.S. 131D-10.2(13) for care and services provided to children who are in the custody or placement responsibility of a county department of social ~~services.~~ services; and

- e. For client assessment and independent case management pertaining to the functions of county departments of social services for public assistance programs authorized under paragraph a. of this subdivision."

Section 5. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 4th day of July,

2000.

Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Joe Hackney Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of

Representatives

James B. Hunt, Jr.

Governor

Approved _____ .m. this _____ day of _____ , 2000